

NORTHERN SPORTS FIELDS COMPLEX AND PARK COORDINATION
&
OVERSIGHT AD HOC COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
9 May 2002, 7:00 P.M.
Marshall Community Center Annex, Marshall, VA

Chairman, Harry Atherton, called the May 9, 2002 meeting of the Northern Sports Fields Complex and Park Coordination and Oversight Committee (NSFC) to order at 7:04 PM.

Committee Members and Staff Present:

Harry Atherton, Board of Supervisors
Larry Miller, Parks & Recreation Director
Randy Wheeler, Deputy County Administrator
Bob Sinclair, Planning Commission
David Graham, Parks & Recreation Board
Marie Glascock, Scott District
Joan Fries, Marshall Business & Residents Association
Langhorne Bond
George Downes, Jr., FYSCC
Ron Mabry, Project Officer
Cynthia Hair, Staff

1. Call to Order & Opening Remarks

Mr. Atherton welcomed the committee members and several citizens to the meeting.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

There were no changes or additions to the agenda and it was unanimously approved.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of 4/11/02 and 4/16/02

Mr. Atherton asked for changes or addition to the minutes of April 11, 2002 and April 16, 2002. There were no changes or additions and both sets of minutes were approved unanimously upon motion made by Mrs. Fries and seconded by Mr. Downes, Jr.

4. Discussion of Citizen Comments

Mr. Atherton asked committee members if they had additional questions or comments. Members indicated they did not.

5. Scope of Work and Bid Process

Mr. Wheeler introduced Ron Mabry to the committee members. Mr. Mabry has been named as Project Officer for the NFSC and will act as the initial point of contact for committee members for questions, requests or information. His office is located on the first floor of the Warren Green Building and his telephone number is 347-8666.

Mr. Wheeler updated the committee on several items that are in-process or have been initiated since the previous committee meeting: Transportation impact study.

- Water use impact study.
- Mr. Miller will continue to work on a draft maintenance budget
- The Project has been submitted to Risk Management Department for review
- Wetlands delineation survey is underway
- Web page is operational and is accessible from the County Government Web page (www.fauquiercounty.gov).
- Sheriff Higgs will attend the next meeting to speak on his experience in similar facilities and to address safety issues
- The County lighting consultant will attend the next meeting to discuss site lighting issues.
- The RFP for Design Services is proceeding and should be released on 5/16/02. A draft copy of the RFP was distributed to members for review and Mr. Wheeler asked members to review and call Mr. Mabry by Monday (the 13th) with and questions or concerns so the RFP can be released no later than 5/16/02.

6. Amendment(s) to Contract with FYSCC

Mr. Atherton said he had a conversation with Mr. Downes regarding concerns with the contract. There were questions about the flexibility of hours the park would be open, signage and hours of operation on concession stands. Questions should be addressed to Mr. Downes.

7. Roundtable

- Mr. Sinclair and Mr. Atherton voiced concerns about the parking on the site.
- Mr. Sinclair has attended several Bradley Elementary and Coleman Elementary school games and said that parking at those sites had been completely utilized during baseball games. He continues to have concerns that if all or some of the venues were used concurrently that parking could be a problem. He asked the committee if some kind of limitation on the number of venues that could be used at one time be considered. . He is concerned that once the park is built it is more difficult to add parking. Mr. Miller explained the current permitting process for special events at Parks/Recreation facilities. The event permit must state the number of people anticipated to be in attendance.
- Mrs. Fries asked if the Coleman School and Fauquier Livestock Exchange lots could be used for overflow parking. Mr. Atherton advised the committee that there is access from Coleman, but the Livestock Exchange is private property.
- Mr. Mabry was instructed to work with the consultants and/or engineers on parking issues.
- Mr. Miller said that if the pool were built on site the total number of parking spaces would have to be expanded. He indicated that the pool season and ball field season are not used at the same time of the year. He asked if an overflow lot should be planned in the design. Mr. Atherton said he doesn't want to increase the amount of pavement, but perhaps some areas should be considered for excess parking.

- Mr. Downes noted that in the autumn all 8 fields might possibly be in use at once. As players get older parking needs change since many of the older kids drive themselves.
- Mr. Sinclair indicated he would like to have a contingency plan that considers unusually high usage. He asked Mr. Miller to develop such a plan.
- Mr. Wheeler said he thought it would be helpful at the next meeting for Mr. Miller to bring a parking requirement plan based on the pool concept.
- Mr. Atherton suggested input from Community Development on the parking question would be helpful.
- Mrs. Fries thought the trip to Crockett Park was helpful. She thought the facility was beautiful and hoped the Marshall park would be as nice.
- Mr. Downes said several groups have been inquiring about the use of the sports field property adjacent to the new fairgrounds. He said there was a need to develop a policy or policies for the use of the property.
- Mr. Bond asked Mr. Miller if he had seen transportation plans for Route 55, such as the turning lanes, etc. Mr. Miller said a draft design had been done, but the final description is not complete. A draft copy would be sent to Mr. Bond.
- Mr. Bond also questioned what to do about the gypsy moth infestation on neighboring properties and what the plans were for the park property. Mr. Atherton advised him that the county no longer had a gypsy moth coordinator, but would possibly consider partnering in a spraying program. Mr. Wheeler said he would have Tim Bridges, County Environmental Services, do an immediate assessment and if the property needed spraying the county would approach neighboring property owners to develop a joint spraying program.
- Mr. Mabry informed the committee that he and Mr. Wheeler would be meeting with the Water Sewer Authority next week regarding water-use issues associated with the project.
- Mr. Miller informed the committee that tree seedlings had been planted 2 weeks ago on the site. Mr. Atherton said all members should visit Crockett Park and that the pavilion and amphitheater were not as imposing as some may think.
- Mr. Wheeler advised the committee there would be a public hearing on the Mellon Estate donation on Monday, June 17th at the Marshall Middle School. The Board meeting would begin at 7:00 p.m.
- Mr. Bond said he noticed on the Citizen Comment document lots of comments on the location of the Frisbee golf course. He asked if there had ever been consideration to put it partially in the woods. Mr. Miller responded that the course may be moved closer to the trees to make it more interesting, but they didn't want to disturb the woods.

8. Set Next Meeting Date

The next regular committee meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Thursday, June 13, 2002, at the Marshall Community Center Library.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.